

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are all the claims pending in the present application. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Mochizuki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,909,453).

§ 101 Rejections – Claims 1-15

The Examiner rejects claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 based on the reasons set forth on pages 2-7 of the present Office Action. Applicant traverses these rejections at least based on the following reasons.

Under 35 U.S.C. § 101, a claimed invention must produce a “useful, concrete and tangible result.” One exemplary useful, concrete, and tangible result of the claimed invention is that a specific user can confirm the emotional condition of other communication server users and can share emotions or conditions with other users. *See numbered paragraph 74 of specification.* The system as claimed in claim 1, for example, can produce this exemplary useful, concrete and tangible result.

Yet another useful, concrete, and tangible result can be that communication server users can indirectly confirm their emotions or conditions with one another and their unity can be promoted through the events generated in accordance with the similarity or differences between the users. *See numbered paragraph 75 of specification.*

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that the system of claim 1 and the method of claim 8, and their respective dependents, do produce a useful, concrete and tangible result.

§ 102(e) Rejections (Mochizuki) – Claims 1-15

Claims 1-15 are rejected over Mochizuki based on the reasons set forth on pages 8-13 of the present Office Action. Applicant traverses these rejections at least based on the following reasons.

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicant submits that Mochizuki does not disclose or suggest at least, “an emotion/condition analysis module for generating events to provide to the communication service users by use of said one of the emotion and condition information of the communication service users, input through the input section,” as recited in claim 1. The Examiner cites column 7, lines 25-34 and column 17, lines 25-38 of Mochizuki as allegedly satisfying the above quoted feature, however, Mochizuki only discusses that an emotion presuming unit 10 determines a particular state based on an input to a motion/expression input unit 16. There is no discussion or suggestion of an emotion/condition analysis module generating events to provide to communication service users. That is, there is no discussion of providing generated events to communications service users. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that Mochizuki does not anticipate claim 1.

Applicant submits that dependent claims 2-7 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1.

Further, with respect to claim 3, Applicant submits that Mochizuki does not disclose or suggest at least, “wherein the input section maps said one of the emotion and condition information of the communication service users into an emotion map,” as recited in claim 3. In the cited portions of Mochizuki, the only coordinate system discussed is related to shapes of different physical features, but there is no teaching or suggestion of an emotion map.

Further, with respect to claim 5, Applicant submits that Mochizuki does not disclose or suggest at least, “a coordinate value comparing unit for measuring a proximity degree of the coordinate values represented on the emotion map, corresponding to said one of the emotion and condition information of the communication service users input through the input section,” and a “a coordinate value determining unit for determining at least one of a similarity and a difference between said coordinate values within a predetermined range based on the proximity degree measured by the coordinate value comparing unit,” as recited in claim 5. As indicated above, there is no disclosure of an emotion map in Mochizuki. Further, the specific features set forth above are not discussed or suggested in Mochizuki. Specifically, Mochizuki does not disclose or suggest measuring a proximity degree of coordinate values represented on an emotion map. Further, there is no teaching or suggestion of determining similarities and differences between the coordinate values within a predetermined range based on the proximity degree measured by the coordinate value comparing unit.

With respect to independent claim 8, Applicant submits that Mochizuki does not disclose or suggest at least, “determining one of a similarity and difference among the communication service users by use of said one of the input emotion and condition information, and generating events in accordance with the determination result,” as recited in claim 8. That is, the cited portions of Mochizuki discloses that, based on a voice analysis, the emotion presuming unit determines different emotion types and classifies them. However, there is no disclosure or suggestion that similarities and differences among communication service users are determined. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that Mochizuki does not anticipate claim 8.

Applicant submits that dependent claims 9-15 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies from independent claim 8.

Further, with respect to claim 9, Applicant submits that this claim is patentable at least based on reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 1.

Further, with respect to dependent claim 13, Applicant submits that Mochizuki does not disclose or suggest at least, “wherein said one of the emotion and condition information is text information corresponding to at least one type of event required by at least one of the communication service users,” as recited in claim 13. The information that is input into the invention of Mochizuki is voice information, however Mochizuki does not disclose or suggest that the emotion and condition information is text information corresponding to at least one type of event required by at least one of the communication service users.

Further, with respect to dependent claim 14, Applicant submits that this claim is patentable at least based on reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 5.

Finally, with respect to claim 15, Applicant submits that Mochizuki does not disclose or suggest at least, “wherein an emotion map is configured based on predetermined information axes indicating predetermined emotions defined by the communication service users, so as to represent one of emotions and conditions as coordinate values,” as recited in claim 15. As indicated above, nowhere does Mochizuki disclose or suggest an emotion map. Further, nowhere do the cited portions of Mochizuki disclose or suggest an emotion map that is configured based on predetermined information axes that indicate predetermined emotions defined by the communication service users. Since this specific feature is not satisfied by Mochizuki, Applicant submits that Mochizuki does not anticipate claim 15.

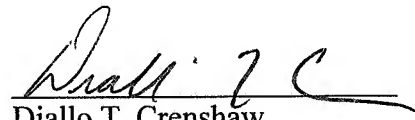
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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